



sacramento river
conservation area
forum
a voice for all interests

SRCAF NOTES ~ JULY, 2003

The Sacramento River Conservation Area Board Members:

Jane Dolan ~ Chair, Butte County
Don Anderson ~ Vice Chair, Glenn County
Dan Silva ~ Secretary/Treasurer, Sutter County

Bill Borrer, Tehama County

Denny Bungarz, Glenn County

Ben Carter, Colusa County

Mel Dodgin, The Resources Agency

Marc Faye, Yolo County

Brendon Flynn, Tehama County

Dan Gover, Shasta County

Glenn Hawes, Shasta County

Shirley Lewis, Butte County

Lynnel Pollock, Yolo County

David Womble, Colusa County

Russell Young, Sutter County

Ex-Officio Members:

Frank Michny, Bureau of Reclamation

Darrin Thome, U.S. F&WS

Mark Charlton, Corps of Engineers

Diana Jacobs, Department of Fish & Game

Pete Rabbon, The Reclamation Board

Dwight Russell, Department of Water Resources

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Project Activities and Updates

Hamilton City ~ A Workgroup meeting was held on June 3rd at the Hamilton City Fire Hall. Bill Paris and Jose Puente updated the group about the formation process that the Hamilton City Community Services District and Glenn County are working through to establish a County Service Area for levee maintenance. Six different levee locations are being considered with a very preliminary total cost range from \$40-80 Mil. The locally developed levee alternative would be about 6.6 miles long, provide over 1000 acres of new habitat, and may require rock re-enforcement in some locations at an additional cost of about \$6 Mil/mile. A public workshop was held on June 12th where the various levee alternatives were discussed. Final selection of a levee location is expected this fall.

Woodson Bridge ~ Through the efforts of Tehama County and the Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has begun a Section 1135 Ecosystem Restoration feasibility level study of the area near Woodson Bridge/Kopta Slough. The study has just begun and will include geomorphic and erosion protection analysis; two-dimensional hydraulic modeling; floodplain planning and restoration; and, riparian protection and re-vegetation. The study should be completed in about 18 months, with design and construction to follow. As soon as there is information gathered for discussion, the SRCAF will help facilitate public workshops for interested stakeholders. The next workgroup meeting is set for late July.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service received funding for wildfire reduction and has four projects planned in Tehama, Glenn, and Butte Counties. The projects include prescribed burns, fire breaks, and manual fuel reduction. They are also trying to secure funding to abandon 18 wells in various counties to protect ground water quality. They had previously abandoned 19 wells in Tehama County at an average cost of \$4,500 per well.

Colusa-Princeton Sub-reach Planning

A Board Steering Committee has been named to work with The Nature Conservancy on a Sub-reach study of the 20 mile reach of the River between Colusa and Princeton. The Committee is comprised of Colusa and Glenn County Forum members as well as a representative from the Department of Fish and Game and will guide the SRCAF

involvement in the CalFed funded study. Sub-reach planning develops the tools and information needed to help make land use decisions regarding the hydraulic, ecologic, economic, and social effects of activities along the River. At a later date, the SRCAF Board will appoint an advisory group made up of a broad range of stakeholders.

Large Woody Debris (LWD) Tracking in the Sacramento River

Adam Henderson, Department of Water Resources, has developed a project to track large woody debris in the Sacramento River, RM 225 to RM 80. Previous studies had not looked at methods of tracking LWD in a large river system. The project is designed to answer several questions: (1) does LWD move (2) how fast (3) what types are in the river (4) what is the source (5) when does it move and (6) once mobilized, where does it deposit?

Using existing radio telemetry, 24 units were tagged in December, 2001. Relocation of tagged LWD began in March, 2002 and ended in November of 2002. 22 of the 24 units were found, 15 had moved significant distances (one had moved 15 miles), 4 had shifted slightly, and 3 did not move at all. Sources of the LWD consisted of riparian and orchard trees. Adam reported on this study at the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and will bring additional information to the TAC as it becomes available.

Update on SRCAF Board and Board Committee Activities ~

- **At the June 19th** Board meeting the Board adopted policy actions #1 and #2 from the Good Neighbor Policy (GNP) as Board policy. The Landowner Assurances Committee is continuing to work on the rest of the GNP and is also looking at the need to identify land use remedies to impacts from adjacent landowners.
- **The Board adopted the** Project Fact Sheet and Review Process as Board policy. The fact sheet and review process have been developed over a long period of time through a Project Review Sub-committee and the TAC and were developed around some of the issues raised in the GNP.
- **A proposed amendment** was adopted that would revise language in the SRCAF Handbook in response to concerns that were raised regarding the original language.

At The TAC ~ Proponents presented updates on the following projects at the April/June meetings: Battle Creek Wildlife Area, River Mile (RM) 274 in Shasta County involves approximately 33 acres along the north bank of Battle Creek; Del Rio Wildland Preserve, RM 175, in Glenn County, 96 acres, large public use component; Gaines Ranch Project in Glenn County between RM 168 and 169, acquisition of 36.1 acres ; Acquisition of 60 acres of a flood-prone portion of "Thousand Acre Ranch" inside the levee in Colusa County; Pine Creek Restoration Project Sacramento River Wildlife Area, RM 195R - 197R in Glenn County involves 235 acres within 450 acres of the Pine Creek unit owned by California Department of Fish & Game (CDFG); Bidwell-Sacramento River State Park General Plan ; CDFG Comprehensive Management Plan for the Sacramento River Wildlife Area extending from RM 145 near Colusa to RM 215, just south of Woodson Bridge.



Future SRCAF Board and Committee Meeting Dates:

- **Technical Advisory Committee meeting** ~ August 5th, 9:30 a.m., Willows City Hall
- **Landowner Assurances Committee meeting** ~ July 16th, 2:00 p.m., Colusa County Farm Bureau office, Market Street, Colusa.
- **SRCAF Board meeting** ~ August 21st, 3:00 p.m., Monday Afternoon Club, Willows, Ca.